

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

FOL RPT GENEVA 00986 SENT ACTION SECSTATE & USDOC WASHDC
DTD 23 JAN 78

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 00986

IO FOR ASST SECY MAYNES, DALLEY, MILLS

S/IL FOR DALE GOOD

DEPT PASS LABOR FOR SECY MARSHALL, HOWARD SAMUEL

COMMERCE FOR SECY KREPS

FROM AMBASSADOR VANDEN HEUVEL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO

SUBJECT: ILO STRUCTURE

REF: (A) GENEVA 0932, (B) STATE 16450

1. ON THE BASIS OF A DISCUSSION TODAY (JANUARY 23) WITH

THE CANADIAN CHARGE -- WHO IS THE IMEC CONVENOR -- I AM CONVINCED THAT WE MUST MAKE URGENT REPRESENTATIONS IN ALL IMEC CAPITALS IF WE ARE TO ARREST THE MOMENTUM WHICH THE EC-9 PROPOSAL (REF. A) HAS CREATED AND BUILD CONSENSUS AROUND AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL BASED UPON USG VIEWS (REF. B). MOREOVER, THESE REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE IN IMEC CAPITALS NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, IF THEY ARE TO HAVE THE IMPACT WE DESIRE ON THE UPCOMING IMEC MEETING ON STRUCTURE, NOW SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 25.

2. ACCORDINGLY, I URGE THAT THE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY INSTRUCT ALL IMEC CAPITALS OF OUR VIEWS, MAKING THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. ALTHOUGH WE APPRECIATE THE WORK THAT THE EC-9 HAVE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMON POSITION, THEIR PROPOSAL, AT IT NOW STANDS, WOULD, IN OUR VIEW, CONSTITUTE A SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD MAKE OUR ULTIMATE RETURN TO THE ORGANIZATION THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT.

B. THE PROBLEMS THAT WE HAVE ARE: (1) ENLARGEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT SEATS ON THE GOVERNING BODY TO EITHER 46 OR 50 TITULAR MEMBERS WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY WEAKEN OVERALL IMEC STRENGTH (THE PRESENT RATIO IS 9 TO 19; THE RATIO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESULTING FROM THE EC-9 PROPOSAL WOULD BE 13 TO 33 OR 37); (2) IT WOULD MAKE THE GOVERNING BODY SO LARGE AS TO BE COMPLETELY UNWIELDLY; (3) IT WOULD ULTIMATELY CREATE PRESSURES ON EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS TO ENLARGE THEIR GROUPS AS WELL; (4) IT WOULD CREATE NEGOTIATING PROBLEMS THAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE IN THE CASE OF THE AFRICANS WITHOUT FURTHER MAJOR CONCESSIONS AND (5) IT WOULD RISK PRESSURE TO CREATE A SEPARATE REGION FOR EASTERN EUROPE.

3. WE URGE THAT, HAVING REGISTERED THESE CONCERNS WITH THE EC-9 PROPOSAL, EMBASSIES IN IMEC CAPITALS BE INSTRUCTED TO EXPLAIN THAT WE THINK THERE WOULD STILL BE TIME TO WORK OUT AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING BROAD PRINCIPLES:

A. RETENTION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF HAVING A LIMITED NUMBER OF 28 GOVERNMENTAL SEATS;

B. APPORTIONMENT OF THE GOVERNMENTAL SEATS AMONG FOUR REGIONS ON AN EQUAL BASIS;

C. AFFIRM THE PRINCIPLE OF CONTINUING REPRESENTATION

OF REPRESENTATIVE COUNTRIES REFLECTING CRITERIA OF (1)
TOTAL POPULATION AND (2) CONTRIBUTION TO THE ILO BUDGET.

4. WE URGE THAT EMBASSIES BE INSTRUCTED TO REQUEST IMEC
CAPITALS TO INSTRUCT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN GENEVA TO
AVOID ANY FINAL CONCLUSIONS AT THE UPCOMING MEETING ON
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25. INSTEAD, THE OUTCOME OF THAT
MEETING SHOULD BE AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A WORKING PARTY
IN GENEVA TO SEE WHETHER A COMMON IMEC POSITION COULD NOT
BE DEVELOPED ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES OUTLINED
ABOVE IN TIME FOR PRESENTATION TO THE G-77 ON FEBRUARY 6.
VANDEN HEUVEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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